

**PATENT**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Application No.: Unknown  
Filing Date: Herewith  
Applicant: Daniel Bone et al.  
Group Art Unit: 3724  
Examiner: Clark F. Dexter  
Title: CLAMPING MECHANISM (AS AMENDED)  
Attorney Docket: 0275S-0327DVA

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Hon. Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks  
Washington, D.C. 20231

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Dear Sir:

Preliminary to the calculation of the filing fees and examination of the above-identified application on its merits, please amend the application as follows:

**IN THE TITLE**

Please amend the title of the present application to read as follows:

"CLAMPING MECHANISM"

### **IN THE SPECIFICATION**

This application is a divisional of prior application No. 09/015,615, filed January 29, 1998. Amend the specification by inserting before the first line the sentence:

This is a division of United States patent application No. 09/015,615, filed January 29, 1998.

### **IN THE CLAIMS**

Please cancel Claims 1-21 without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter contained therein. Add new Claims 22-28 as follows:

22. (New) A clamping mechanism for clamping an object, said clamping mechanism comprising:

a housing;

a rod attached to said housing;

a clamping arm rotatably mounted on the rod, said clamping arm being rotatable through 360°;

a non-reversible one way rotary clutch positioned between and operatively engaging said rod and said clamping arm to permit the clamping arm to freely rotate in only one direction; and

the clamping arm having a centre of mass spaced apart from the axis of rotation of said one way rotary clutch.

23. (New) A clamping mechanism according to Claim 22 wherein the clamping mechanism further comprises a support member attached to said housing.

24. (New) A clamping mechanism according to Claim 23 wherein the support member comprises a slide element, the slide element being slidably mounted on the housing, wherein the clamping arm is rotatably mounted on the slide element so that the sliding movement of the slide element and clamping arm guides the object held between the support member and the clamping arm.

25. (New) A clamping mechanism according to Claim 22 wherein the clamping arm is adapted to be mountable on a saw via a reversing slip clutch which allows the clamping arm to rotate in the reverse direction to the direction of free rotation of the rotary one way clutch if a reverse torque is exerted on the clamping arm which exceeds a specified threshold.

26. (New) A clamping mechanism according to Claim 25 wherein the one way rotary clutch and the reverse slip clutch are co-axially mounted.

27. (New) A clamping mechanism according to Claim 22 wherein the clamping arm is made from a plastics material having a metal weight located towards an end of the clamping arm distant from the one way rotary clutch.

28. (New) A clamping mechanism according to Claim 22, wherein the clamping arm has a holding surface and an end distant from the one way rotary clutch, the distant end having a curvature lying in a plane, so that the curvature direction of the clamping arm end is opposite to the curvature direction of the holding surface.

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**REMARKS**

Claims 22-28 are now pending in the application. Claims 22-28 of the divisional application are the same as pending Claims 13-15, 17-19 and 24, respectively, of parent application 09/015,615 after filing of the October 4, 2001 response by the Applicants, except that the term "non-reversible" has been added to new Claim 22.

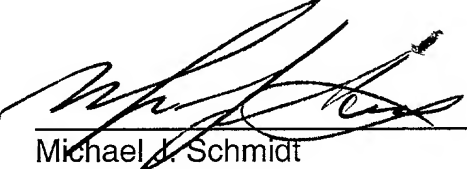
**CONCLUSION**

In light of the above amendments and remarks, Applicant would submit that all Claims are in a condition for allowance and thus Applicant requests that the Examiner pass the case to issue at his earliest possible convenience.

Should the Examiner have any questions regarding the present amendment he should not hesitate to contact the undersigned at (248) 641-1600.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: Feb 15, 2002  
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